mills in the States where no such practice exists. The extent of open market borroings will depend the cane price arrears of 2002-03 sugar season.

Financial loss to FCI

†1740 SHRI LAJPAT RAI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Food Corporation of India had to face financial loss due to storage of more foodgrains than required buffer stock during the last few years;

(b) if so, the requirement of the foodgrains for buffer stock during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-2003 alongwith the quantum of actual buffer stock of foodgrains; and

(c) the additional amount which Food Corporation of India had to bear during each of the above year due to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) Food Corporation of India had to procure higher quantities of foodgrains, over and above the domestic demand and buffer requirement, in the recent past, due to attractive minimum support prices offered to farmers.

(b) and (c) The requirement of foodgrains for the buffer stock, the quantum of actual stock and the additional carrying cost incurred during 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 are as follows:—

	2000-01 (Actual)	2001-02 (Provisional)	2002-03 (RE)
Stock with FCI (lakh MTs) (as on 1st April)	199.40	273.92	288.46
Buffer Norms (lakh MTs) (as on 1st April)	158.00	158.00	158.00
Carrying Cost of average stock above buffer requirement (Rs. Crore)	1025.95	2620.83	1725.05

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.